

HOUSE RESOLUTION 301

By Hawk

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend William James Gaines of Unicoi County on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, William James "Bill" Gaines of Unicoi County, who has served the county expertly for thirty-three years as the Assessor of Property and, prior to that, three years as Deputy Assessor, has recently taken a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious tenure as Assessor of Property, Bill Gaines worked assiduously and with great diligence and fairness to address the concerns of the citizens who utilized his office; and

WHEREAS, under his astute leadership, the Assessor's office was renowned for its efficiency and embracing of state-of-the-art technology; and

WHEREAS, lending his considerable expertise, Bill Gaines had been appointed by the Tennessee Division of Property Assessments to serve on numerous committees over the years; and

WHEREAS, he rendered sterling service as President of the Tennessee Assessor's Association and was honored as the East Tennessee Assessor of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gaines has also contributed his time, talents, and leadership to numerous civic organizations, standing as President of the Erwin Kiwanis Club, the Erwin Jaycees, the Unicoi Ruritan Club, and the Unicoi County Ruritan Council, and Executive Director, alongside his wife, Ruth Horton Gaines, of the Miss Unicoi County Scholarship Pageant; and

WHEREAS, for nearly thirty years, he has faithfully donated his efforts to the Jaycees Christmas Shopping Tour and was instrumental in preserving the effort after the Erwin Jaycees Chapter officially folded; and

WHEREAS, mindful of the importance of a proper education, Mr. Gaines also volunteers in the schools and as a reading buddy through the Kiwanis Reads program; and

WHEREAS, a public servant of the highest order, he continues to champion causes close to his heart, he acquired the Impact Aid Fund for the Unicoi County School System from the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, Bill Gaines is an active and devout member of Central Baptist Church, which he has served faithfully for many years in a variety of positions, including deacon, trustee, assistant Sunday school teacher, lead Sunday School teacher, choir member, Sunday school superintendent, President of the Baptist men, bus driver, and team kids youth leader; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Gaines is fortunate to share both love and companionship with Ruth Gaines and their daughter and son-in-law, Kristen and Roger Allen; he also enjoys the company of his twin grandsons, Ryan and Rhett; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Bill Gaines has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and supervisors; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we pause to honor this outstanding professional for his years of dedication and service to the people of Unicoi County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend William James "Bill" Gaines for his thirty-three years of exemplary service to Unicoi County as Assessor of Property and to the people of Tennessee as we extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.